

Claims

1. A method of establishing a user group amongst a plurality of mobile terminals, comprising: receiving at a host device, from at least one of the plurality of mobile terminals, at least one identity associated with each said mobile terminal; and grouping or collecting, at the host device, the identities associated with the mobile terminals, to thereby establish a user group, wherein the at least one of said mobile terminals transmit the said associated identities to the host device on a local communication link.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the user group is a temporary user group.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the host device is associated with a mobile communications network, further comprising the step of transmitting the user group to the mobile communications network.
4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the mobile communications network further communicates with the mobile terminals in the user group.
5. A method according to claim 1, further comprising dynamically updating the user group.
6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the step of dynamically updating the user group includes receiving, at the host device, at least one identity associated with a mobile terminal, and adding said identity to the user group.
7. A method according to claim 5 wherein the step of dynamically updating the user group includes deleting an identity from the user group.

8. A method according to claim 1, further comprising storing the user group.
9. A method according to claim 8 wherein the user group is stored with a characteristic to identify the group.
10. A method according to claim 9 wherein the characteristic is at least one of a date stamp; a time stamp; a location stamp.
11. A method according to claim 1 wherein the plurality of mobile devices transmit their associated identities to the host device responsive to a request for their associated identity from the host device, wherein the host device transmits said request on a local communication link.
12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the request from the host device is a broadcast signal.
13. A method according to claim 1 wherein the host device includes a mobile terminal.
14. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step, after said grouping step, of transmitting the identities of the user group to the plurality of terminals.
15. A method according to claim 1 wherein the local communication link is a short-range communication link.
16. A method according to claim 15 wherein the short-range communication link is a radio communication link.
17. A method according to claim 16 wherein the radio communication link is a Bluetooth link.

18. A method according to claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of mobile terminals is associated with a mobile telecommunications network.
19. A method according to claim 1 wherein the host device is a mobile terminal.
20. A method according to claim 1 wherein the host device is dedicated control unit.
21. A method according to claim 1 wherein the host device is a computer.
22. A device for establishing a user group amongst a plurality of mobile terminals, including: means for receiving an identity associated with each of the mobile terminals, said means being adapted to receive the identities on a local communication link; and means for grouping or collecting the associated identities to thereby establish a user group.
23. A device according to claim 22 wherein the local communication link is a short-range communication link.
24. A device according to claim 23 wherein the short range communication is a radio link.
25. A device according to claim 24 wherein the radio link is a Bluetooth link.
26. A device according to claim 23 wherein the short range communication link is an infra-red link.
27. A device according to claim 22 further including means for communicating with a mobile communication system, and means for transmitting the user group to said mobile communication system.

28. A device according to claim 22 further comprising means for storing one or more user groups.
29. A device according to claim 22 comprising a mobile telephone.
30. A device according to claim 22 comprising a host control device.
31. A device according to claim 22 comprising a computer system.
32. A mobile communications system including a device for establishing a user group amongst a plurality of mobile terminals of the system, including a host device for receiving an identity associated with each of the mobile terminals, said host device being adapted to receive the identities on a local communication link, and said host device further being adapted to group or collect the associated identities to thereby establish a user group.